

A LETTER RACK

A seen by the illustration, the letter rack shown is built on the top of a thick base which contains a handy drawer for stamps, pencils, etc. Before commencing work, study the sheet, read these instructions, and duplicate any patterns required. This occurs in the case of the floor and base where particular care must be taken to get the slots A, B and C correct and in line.

In the case of the back and front of the drawer, one of these pieces is cut from the waste wood of the front of the base exactly as shown in the pattern. The whole piece of paper, therefore, can be pasted to the wood for cutting out.

All parts are cut with the fretsaw, cleaned up with glasspaper and made to fit as firmly as possible. Dealing with the base portion first you should cut out the two rectangles forming the top and floor.

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The Base Parts

The top portion has the three slots A, B and C, the lower portion is a plain rectangle without any slots at all. On to this solid floor you build up the front, back and sides to form a hollow box. These are halved together at E, and when complete are glued firmly to the floor portion and reinforced with nails or screws driven through from the underside.

It is best to complete the actual drawer next, before the top is fitted. The front, back and two ends of the drawer are fitted together with a halved joint as can be seen in the detail on the sheet. This hollow frame is then glued to a floor piece measuring 5\frac{3}{4} ins. by 3\frac{1}{8} ins. and \frac{1}{8} in. thick.

Be sure to get the drawer sides square, and the ends of the floor

sufficiently smooth to run easily.

Make sure also that there is room for it to pass in and out through the aperture in the front. To prevent it passing right into the box and also to hide the joints, a false or outer front is put on. This extends beyond the ends of the drawer itself, and so serves as a stop piece.

For Smooth Running

To provide runners on which the drawer can slide along, rightangles of wood are fitted. If you look at the pattern of the front of the base you will see the dotted lines showing where these guides and runners have to be put. These pieces do not rest on the floor, but are raised about 1/16in. upwards as the dotted lines show. They are glued to the inside of the back and front.

Care must be taken to see they are just wide enough apart to allow the drawer to slide in comfortably. You can probably get a small piece of card underneath for the right height.

When the drawer has been fitted the top can be added and glued and screwed down.

The Fretted Uprights

Or you can first fix to this top the three upright letter racks which glue in at A, B and C. The front one is fretted with the animal, the middle one has a normal fret, and the back one is to plain outline only. Stiffening pieces can be added along the bottom of these uprights further to strengthen them. Small rightangle support pieces (D) are also glued in front of the first upright.

When the whole of the top is finished, it can be glued and screwed to the sides and back of the base. An under-floor is provided for the whole thing by strips of wood forming a frame. These project slightly beyond the floor of the base and are

rounded off.